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AUTHORITY: Atomic Energy Act secs. 107, 161, 181, 182, 68 Stat. 939, 948, 953, 223, 234 (42 U.S.C. 2137, 2201, 2231, 2232, 2273, 2282); Energy Reorganization Act secs. 201, 202 (42 U.S.C. 5841, 5842); Government Paperwork Elimination Act sec. 1704 (44 U.S.C. 3504 note).

Sections 55.41, 55.43, 55.45, and 55.59 also issued under Nuclear Waste Policy Act sec. 306 (42 U.S.C. 10226).

Section 55.61 also issued under Atomic Energy Act secs. 186, 187 (42 U.S.C. 2236, 2237).

SOURCE: 52 FR 9460, Mar. 25, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 55.1 Purpose.

The regulations in this part:

- (a) Establish procedures and criteria for the issuance of licenses to operators and senior operators of utilization facilities licensed under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or Section 202 of the Energy Reorganization

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Act of 1974, as amended, and part 50, part 52, or part 54 of this chapter,

(b) Provide for the terms and conditions upon which the Commission will issue or modify these licenses, and

(c) Provide for the terms and conditions to maintain and renew these licenses.

[52 FR 9460, Mar. 25, 1987, as amended at 72 FR 49560, Aug. 28, 2007]

§ 55.2 Scope.

The regulations in this part apply to—

(a) Any individual who manipulates the controls of any utilization facility licensed under parts 50, 52, or 54 of this chapter,

(b) Any individual designated by a facility licensee to be responsible for directing any licensed activity of a licensed operator.

(c) Any facility license.

[52 FR 9460, Mar. 25, 1987, as amended at 59 FR 5938, Feb. 9, 1994; 72 FR 49560, Aug. 28, 2007]

§ 55.3 License requirements.

A person must be authorized by a license issued by the Commission to perform the function of an operator or a senior operator as defined in this part.

§ 55.4 Definitions.

As used in this part:

Act means the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, including any amendments to the Act.

Actively performing the functions of an operator or senior operator means that an individual has a position on the shift crew that requires the individual to be licensed as defined in the facility's technical specifications, and that the individual carries out and is responsible for the duties covered by that position.

Commission means the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or its duly authorized representatives.

Controls when used with respect to a nuclear reactor means apparatus and mechanisms the manipulation of which directly affects the reactivity or power level of the reactor.

Facility means any utilization facility as defined in part 50 of this chapter. In cases for which a license is issued

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for operation of two or more facilities, *facility* means all facilities identified in the license.

Facility licensee means an applicant for or holder of a license for a facility.

Licensee means an individual licensed operator or senior operator.

Operator means any individual licensed under this part to manipulate a control of a facility.

Performance testing means testing conducted to verify a simulation facility's performance as compared to actual or predicted reference plant performance.

Physician means an individual licensed by a State or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to dispense drugs in the practice of medicine.

Plant-referenced simulator means a simulator modeling the systems of the reference plant with which the operator interfaces in the control room, including operating consoles, and which permits use of the reference plant's procedures.

Reference plant means the specific nuclear power plant from which a simulation facility's control room configuration, system control arrangement, and design data are derived.

Senior operator means any individual licensed under this part to manipulate the controls of a facility and to direct the licensed activities of licensed operators.

Simulation facility means one or more of the following components, alone or in combination: used for either the partial conduct of operating tests for operators, senior operators, and license applicants, or to establish on-the-job training and experience prerequisites for operator license eligibility:

- (1) A plant-referenced simulator;
- (2) A Commission-approved simulator under § 55.46(b); or
- (3) Another simulation device, including part-task and limited scope simulation devices, approved under § 55.46(b).

Systems approach to training means a training program that includes the following five elements:

- (1) Systematic analysis of the jobs to be performed.

- (2) Learning objectives derived from the analysis which describe desired performance after training.

- (3) Training design and implementation based on the learning objectives.

- (4) Evaluation of trainee mastery of the objectives during training.

- (5) Evaluation and revision of the training based on the performance of trained personnel in the job setting.

United States, when used in a geographical sense, includes Puerto Rico and all territories and possessions of the United States.

[52 FR 9460, Mar. 25, 1987, as amended at 66 FR 52667, Oct. 17, 2001]

§ 55.5 Communications.

(a) Except as provided under a regional licensing program identified in paragraph (b) of this section, an applicant or licensee or facility licensee shall submit any communication or report concerning the regulations in this part and shall submit any application filed under these regulations to the Commission as follows:

- (1) By mail addressed to—Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation or Director, Office of New Reactors, as appropriate, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; or

- (2) By delivery in person to the NRC's offices at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, or

- (3) Where practicable, by electronic submission, for example, via Electronic Information Exchange, or CD-ROM. Electronic submissions must be made in a manner that enables the NRC to receive, read, authenticate, distribute, and archive the submission, and process and retrieve it a single page at a time. Detailed guidance on making electronic submissions can be obtained by visiting the NRC's Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html>; by e-mail to MSHD.Resource@nrc.gov; or by writing the Office of Information Services, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. The guidance discusses, among other topics, the formats the NRC can accept, the use of electronic signatures, and the treatment of nonpublic information.

- (b)(1) Except for test and research reactor facilities, the Director, Office of